AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising an epothilone together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein the composition comprises at least one cyclodextrin, and wherein the epothilone is provided in a therapeutically acceptable concentration upon administration to a patient.

Claim 2 (cancelled).

Claim 3 (cancelled).

Claim 4 (currently amended). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim [~~3~~] 1, wherein the cyclodextrin is selected from the group consisting of β-cyclodextrin, hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin, and sulfopropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 5 (original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 4, wherein the epothilone is selected from the group consisting of epothilone D, epothilone B, 9,10-dehydro-epothilone D, and 9,10-dehydro-epothilone B.

Claim 6 (original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 5, wherein the epothilone is epothilone D.

Claim 7 (original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 6, wherein the cyclodextrin is hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 8 (original). The pharmaceutical composition of Claim 6, wherein the cyclodextrin is sulfopropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 9 (original). A lyophilized mixture comprising an epothilone and a cyclodextrin.

Claim 10 (original). The lyophilized mixture of Claim 9, wherein the cyclodextrin is selected from the group consisting of β-cyclodextrin, hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin, and sulfopropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 11 (original). The lyophilized mixture of Claim 10, wherein the epothilone is selected from the group consisting of epothilone D, epothilone B, 9,10-dehydro-epothilone D, and 9,10-dehydro-epothilone B.

Claim 12 (original). The lyophilized mixture of Claim 11, wherein the epothilone is epothilone D.

Claim 13 (original). The lyophilized mixture of Claim 12 , wherein the cyclodextrin is hydroxypropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 14 (original). The lyophilized mixture of Claim 12 , wherein the cyclodextrin is sulfopropyl-β-cyclodextrin.

Claim 15 (currently amended). A method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition ~~of Claim 1~~, said method comprising the steps of

obtaining a lyophilate ~~of Claim 9~~ comprising an epothilone and a cyclodextrin; and

dissolving said lyophilate in a suitable reconstitution solvent.

Claim 16 (original). The method of Claim 15, wherein the reconstitution solvent comprises one or more of an alcohol and a glycol.

Claim 17 (currently amended). The method of Claim 16, wherein the alcohol is ethanol and the ~~polyene~~ glycol is selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol 400, and polyethoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate.

Claim 18 (original). The method of Claim 17, wherein the glycol is polyethoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate.

Claim 19 (original). The method of Claim 18, wherein the reconstitution solvent comprises water at between about 10% (v/v) and about 70% (v/v), and polyethoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate at between about 25% (v/v) and about 10% (v/v).

Claim 20 (original). The method of Claim 19, wherein the reconstitution solvent comprises water, ethanol, and polyethoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate in a volume/volume/volume ratio selected from the group consisting of about 10/65/25, about 20/55/25, about 40/35/25, about 62.5/12.5/25, about 60/20/20, and about 60/25/15.

Claim 21 (original). The method of Claim 20, wherein the reconstitution solvent comprises water, ethanol, and polyethoxyethylene sorbitan monooleate in a volume/volume/volume ratio of about 60/25/15.

Claim 22 (original). A soft gel cap comprising a pharmaceutical composition of Claim 1.